REMARKS

This application is a continuation of U.S. patent application Serial Number 08/619,014. Amended claim 1 and new claims 4 and 5 are presented for examination.

Amended claim 1 is directed toward an endovascular support device (10) of a sinusoidal pattern having a plurality of substantially straight segments (16) connected end to end at a plurality of upper (12) and lower (14) axial turns or peaks. Claim 1 also precludes any joining or interconnection of the substantially straight segments in the central or intermediate portions thereof. The support device being capable of retaining a compressed configuration until delivered to the affected area within the vessel at which time the device is purposefully expanded by the application of a radial force to permanently place the device at the affected area.

New claims 4 and 5 define a plurality of endovascular support devices or stent members (10), as discussed in the specification at column 6, lines 37-41. Again, each stent member (10) is formed of a sinusoidal pattern comprising a plurality of substantially straight segments (16) connected end to end at a plurality of upper (12) and lower (14) axial turns or peaks. The stent segments are mounted in an axially adjacent, non-overlapping manner on a catheter for delivery to the affected site. Each stent segment is capable of being retained in a compressed configuration until delivered to the affected area within the vessel at which time the stent segments are purposefully expanded by the application of a radial force to permanently place the stent segments at the affected area.

Applicant considers the subject matter of the presently claimed invention to be

patentable for at least the same reasons as parent applications 08/619,014 and 07/398,180 (the latter now U.S. Patent Number 5,292,331).

Respectfully submitted,

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